

POLITICAL SMASH SEEN FOR G. O. P.

Indian Probate Service Shows Symptoms of Internal Rows

INVOLVE SEN. HARRELD

Resignations of Two of His Appointees Requested by Commissioner Burke

With the clearing of the weather the political atmosphere has become more equally than usual and a war to the knife is now on in the United States Indian probate service in eastern Oklahoma between supervising Probate Attorney George Reed on the one hand and Dudley Huell of McAlester and Bob Crockett of Durant, whose resignations as probate attorneys have been called for by Indian Commissioner Burke upon the recommendation of Mr. Reed. The shake-up in the Indian probate service has caused no end of sensation, especially since it became known that Huell, an appointee of Senator J. W. Harreld, has tendered his forced resignation from the service.

A feud has been on for many months between Reed and Huell and the discontent of Huell will be bitterly opposed by Senator Harreld, Republican State Chairman A. C. Alexander and Congressman Bert Chandler who has been after Reed's scalp for several months.

Wants Crockett Retained. Crockett, with jurisdiction over Atoka, Coal, Marshall, and Bryan counties, whose resignation has also been asked for by the Indian commissioner, was a Harreld-Jim Harris appointee and Mr. Reed, who does not desire to antagonize the senator and republican national committeeman, it is said, will ask that Crockett be retained. In the service despite the fact that his resignation was called for following an investigation conducted by Chief Inspector E. B. Llan of the Indian bureau.

Indian Field Clerk Frank M. Sterrett of Durant is said to have been behind the charges filed against Crockett, who is accused of having accepted a fee from a full-blood, restricted Indian, following his appointment as probate attorney. Crockett in explanation, admits he accepted such a fee but that it was in payment for services rendered the Indian before becoming probate attorney.

Bitter Fight Foreseen. That the probate attorney row will reach all the way to the White House and that the fur is going to fly was clearly indicated today. Reed has imagined that Huell has been trying to get his scalp in order that he might be named to succeed him and so Reed, it is understood, working through former Creek Tribal Attorney M. L. Mott and his brother-in-law, E. B. Meritt, assistant commissioner of Indian affairs, succeeded in inducing Indian Commissioner Burke to call for Huell's resignation.

Buell has complied with the request of the commissioner but before leaving for his home at McAlester last night announced that he was going to get Reed or know the reason why.

There can be no question that Huell is mad and mad all over and inasmuch as he is one of the main spokes in the republican machine in Pittsburg county and as appointee of Senator Harreld, it may confidently be expected that the junior senator from Oklahoma will be drawn into the fray.

Buell's dismissal means trouble for Senator Harreld and Republican State Chairman Alexander and it is known that Alexander has already been drawn into the fight and is now clamoring for Reed's scalp.

Letter Held Up Mail. It is expected that Congressman Bert Chandler and possibly Congresswoman Alice M. Robertson may join with Senator Harreld in demanding an investigation and that they may insist upon a successor to Reed being named.

Mr. Reed refused to comment in any way today over the resignations and otherwise than grin he refused

to even admit that Buell's resignation had been sent in.

The first intimation of the pending shake-up in the probate attorney's force came this week when a letter, signed by Reed, under date of April 29, was distributed among the various heads connected with the local Indian offices. The notice which was somewhat terse and to the point, announced that hereafter any mail intended for Buell at McAlester should be forwarded to W. B. Folz, acting probate attorney in that city.

More Trouble Brewing. Of course, it had been known for some time that the feud was on between Reed and his assistant and brother Huell on the one hand and Buell on the other but it had not been known it had developed to the diabolical stage. All of Buell's efforts from now on, according to the confidences expressed by him last night to a prominently known east side republican, will be devoted to putting the ax under the Reed brothers who hail from Arkansas and whose republicanism has at times been seriously questioned.

That the probate attorneyship row is only the beginning of further shake-ups at the local Indian offices was rumored today. There is said to be a plan on foot to reorganize the Indian field service as well and it is expected that the resignation of John Tidwell, democrat, as supervising field clerk will be asked for before a great while.

The probate attorneyship plums pay \$2,500 a year.

BISHOPS OUTLINE SUCCESS OF PAST

First Time in History of Church Methodists Review Work

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., May 6.—For the first time in the history of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, the bishops of the church today made reports outlining the accomplishments of the last four years. The reports were ordered by the 1918 conference and while the bishops were prepared to read their statements, they were published today in the Daily Christian Advocate, official organ of the conference.

Preliminary business is being rushed. A hot fight is expected when the question of unification with the "northern branch" comes up. Bishop Warren Candler of Atlanta is expected to lead the fight on the movement.

While Bishop Candler did not sign either report submitted on the question of unification, he is known to be bitterly opposed to such a move and as he is the senior bishop in attendance, his influence will be great. There has also been division of opinion on the subjects of heresy and conference rights.

22 Okemah Graduates.

OKEMAH, May 6.—The Okemah high school will have a large graduating class this year, there being 15 girls and 7 boys in the class. Elaborate preparations are being made for commencement week. The baccalaureate sermon is to be delivered by Dr. Hill, dean of Tulsa university, on the night of May 14 in the Crystal theater. Commencement day is May 17.

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